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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1511)

Name of Candidate	N Chetana Reddy		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	971773
Center	Online	Date	08-12-2021

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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

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5.

6.

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All the Best

① Despite a vast coastline and a number of waterways, why has India not been able to achieve its potential of waterways?

Ans. India has a vast coastline of 7500 km and 14500 km of navigable inland waterways. Yet share of waterways in total transport is only 6% (NITI Aayog)

Reasons

(a) Lack of proper infrastructure (eg. loading and unloading docks)

(b) Heavy siltation in rivers reduces depth of water

(c) Most of the ports in India lack adequate draught levels to handle heavy vessels

(d) River water sharing disputes among states

(e) Seasonal availability of water in peninsular rivers

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(f) Huge capital investment needed to develop inland waterways.

Steps taken by government

(a) National Waterways Act – 111 national waterways declared

(b) Jal Marg Vikas project to develop infrastructure

(c) Sagarmala project
- Upgrading existing ports
- improving port-hinterland connectivity
- Port-led industrialisation.

Thus, shifting to waterways can decongest road & rail and is also more efficient, cost effective and eco friendly.

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2) The move to establish a National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development to reverse the drag on India's growth potential will have its own challenges. Discuss.

Ans. Government has proposed to establish NaBFID as a developmental bank to finance infrastructure projects.

Need for NaBFID

(a) It can provide low cost, long term financing for infrastructure projects.

(b) Eases pressure on banks which have short-term liabilities and cannot lend long term

(c) NaBFID also has mandate to develop corporate bond market and act as forum to settle disputes in infrastructure projects.

(d) It can attract investments from sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, etc.

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Challenges

(a) Past experience with development banks has been poor

- → politically motivated lending
  - → high NPAs
  - → undercapitalised

ICICI, IDFB were developmental banks later converted to commercial banks

(b) Ensuring professionalism & autonomy

(c) Diversifying sources of funds instead of only depending on government.

(d) Difficulty of ensuring transparency & accountability.

Thus, NABFID can help post COVID economic recovery but concerns need to be addressed.

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③ Highlighting the issues related to the current fertilizer subsidy regime in India, discuss the need for reforms in this context.

Ans. Fertilizer subsidy is the 2nd largest subsidy in India after food subsidy. The current subsidy regime is facing many issues.

Issues

(a) Growing burden of subsidy is widening fiscal deficit

(b) Imbalance in use of fertilizers due to high urea subsidies

Recommended ratio of N, P, K is 4:2:1

Actual ratio is 25:5:1

(c) Urea remains outside purview of NBS (Nutrient Based Subsidy) scheme

(d) Overdependence on imports

(e) High level of wastage

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(f) Overuse of fertilizers is causing pollution of air, water, soil.

Reforms needed

(a) Bringing urea under NBS scheme

(b) Direct Benefit Transfer of fertilizer subsidy to farmers instead of fixing MRP

(c) Neem coated urea to ensure slow nutrient release into soil

(d) Soil Health card scheme to inform farmers about appropriate fertilizer use

(e) Subsidies for biofertilizers to encourage shift to organic farming.

Thus, there is need to rationalize fertilizer subsidy for prosperity of farmers & health of consumers.

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(4) Identifying the need for climate resilient agriculture in India, discuss how it can be achieved.

Ans. Climate change is expected to adversely affect agriculture which is backbone of Indian economy. In this context, there is pressing need for climate resilient agriculture.

Benefits

(a) Protecting farmers from decline in yields due to climate change

(b) Ensuring food security of the country.

(c) Agriculture can be insulated from extreme weather events due to climate change

eg: droughts, floods, ~~pest~~ cyclones, etc

(d) It can help to tackle pest attacks which are expected to increase due to climate change

eg: locust attack

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(e) Addressing water stress & vagaries of monsoon as less than 40% of India's farmlands are irrigated.

Achieving climate resilient agriculture

(a) National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture

(b) Micro-irrigation for efficient water use

(c) Organic farming & Zero Budget Natural farming

(d) Shifting from crops like paddy to millets, pulses & oilseeds which require less water & are drought resistant

Thus, agricultural scientists, farmers & policymakers need to join hands to climate-proof our agriculture.

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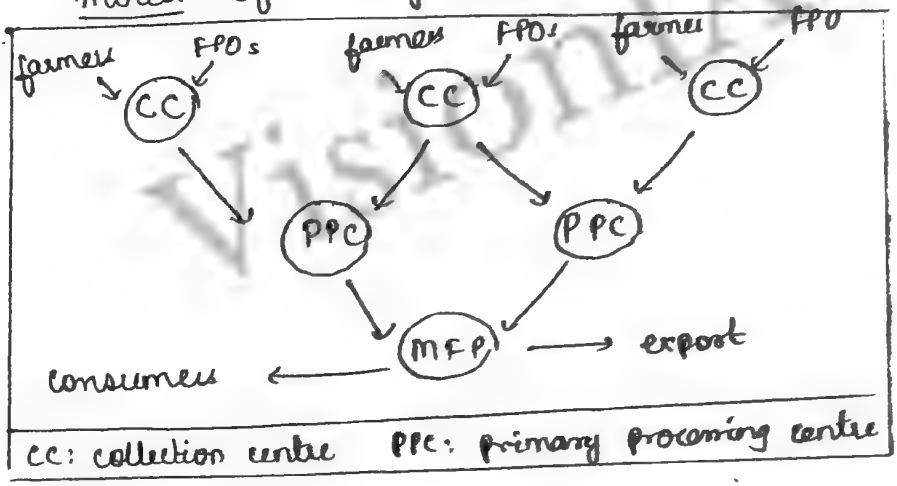
(5) Mega Food Parks (MFPs) were considered to be a gamechanger for the food processing sector in India but their progress remains stunted. Discuss.

Ans. Mega Food Parks were established under Kisan Sampada Yojana to give an impetus to food processing sector.

MFPs - a potential gamechanger

(a) They were based on hub-and-spoke model of supply chain.



(b) They provided various facilities under one roof such as processing, packaging, quality checks, marketing, etc

(c) They could achieve economies of scale

(d) Potential to increase farmers incomes, create jobs and reduce post harvest losses.

Reasons for stunted growth

(a) Fragmentation of agri market due to APMCs

(b) Essential Commodities Act - arbitrary imposition of stock limits

(c) Lack of awareness among farmers

(d) Shortage of skilled labour.

(e) Lack of professional management of MFPs

Thus, there is need to address lacunae in working of MFPs to benefit from "sunrise sector" of food processing.

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(6) Give an account of the challenges associated with rapidly increasing biomedical waste in India. Also state key features of Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2018.

Ans. Biomedical waste refers to waste generated by hospitals, laboratories, veterinary clinics, health camps, etc

Challenges of biomedical waste

(a) Surge in generation of biomedical waste due to COVID19

eg: disposable masks, PPE kits, RTPCR testing kits, etc

(b) Lack of proper disposal creates health hazard

(c) Damage to environment and pollution of soil, water, etc

(d) Lack of training & awareness of health workers

(e) Shortage of processing facilities.

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Key features of Biomedical waste management rules

1. Colour coding of biomedical waste

   Yellow → human & animal parts
   Red → toxic waste
   White → sharp objects like needles
   blue → recyclable waste

2. Waste must be sterlized before sending to processing facility.

3. GPS tracking of biomedical waste

4. Incineration / deep burial for toxic waste
   Autoclaving & recycling other waste.

5. Penalties for improper disposal.

Thus, there is a need to implement these rules effectively and provide training to workers handling biomedical waste.

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(7) What do you understand by impact based forecasting in disaster management? How can such forecasting strengthen disaster management preparedness?

Ans. Impact based forecasting is a method where predictions are made on social, economic and environmental impact of a disaster for better preparedness.

eg: Normal forecasting → cyclone expected to strike at specified time

Impact based forecasting → cyclone expected to strike at specified time and may cause damage to houses, power lines, roads, etc

How it strengthens disaster preparedness

(a) It combines data on hazard with data on population density, infrastructure, etc to give a more holistic structure.

Impact = Hazard × Vulnerability

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(b) It enables officials to take precautionary measures

eg: evacuating public from high impact areas

(c) It helps people to understand the possible impact on their lives and plan accordingly.

eg: power disruption ⇒ buy emergency lamps.

Thus, impact based forecasting can help in reducing loss of life & damage to property, through awareness, alertness and preparedness.

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(8) Low Earth Orbit is becoming increasingly crowded as countries race to launch satellites. Highlight issues and international efforts taken.

Ans. Low Earth Orbit is the preferred orbit for launching remote sensing satellites, space stations, navigation satellites, etc. This has led to LEO becoming crowded.

Issues faced

(a) Increase in crowding of LEO increases risk of collisions

(b) There is also increase in debris in LEO due to obsolete satellites

(c) Fears of triggering Kessler syndrome - debris causes cascading collisions which creates more debris;

(d) It increases cost of maintenance of space assets due to damage from

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debris.

Efforts taken

(a) Project NETRA of ISRO – to track debris which may pose threat to Indian space assets.

(b) Project "Remove Debris" of European Space Agency demonstrated technologies to remove debris
- harpoon capture
- net capture

(c) Outer space treaty ⇒ holding countries responsible for damage caused.

(d) Automatic deorbiting of satellites at end-of-life.

Thus, LEO is a "global commons" which must be used judiciously & equitably by all countries.

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(a) Ennumerating the existing measures to counter bio-terrorism in India, highlight the need for a bioterrorism law.

Ans. Bioterrorism can be defined as the intentional release of deadly pathogens or toxins to create wave of terror in society.

Existing measures to counter bioterrorism

(a) Integrated Disease Surveillence Programme for early detection

(b) Network of laboratories like National Institute of Virology, Pune which can do genome sequencing of new pathogens.

(c) All labs dealing with dangerous microorganisms are expected to follow safety precautions.

(d) India is signatory to Biological Weapons Convention

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Need for bioterrorism law

(a) Lack of dedicated institutional mechanism to handle bioterrorism

(b) To bring about coordination between different agencies

- Ministry of Health
- Department of Biotech
- Home Ministry.

(c) Creating a rapid response team akin to NSG for bioterror attacks.

Thus, the recent COVID outbreak and concerns about "gain-of-function" research in China require India to formulate a new law to tackle bioterrorism.

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(10) Discuss the potential of "Integrated Law Enforcement Centres" and "Smart Walls" to address border security challenges.

Ans. India has 15,000 km of land border which is located in difficult terrain with several hostile neighbours.

Border Security challenges
- Terrorist infiltration
- Drug trafficking
- Smuggling
- human trafficking
- Aggression by neighbours (eg. Galwan Valley)

Potential of "Integrated Law Enforcement Centres"

(a) Currently, border law enforcement duties are split among multiple agencies
- BSF/ ITBP/ Assam rifles
- army
- state police

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(b) Integrated centre can increase coordination between agencies, reduce jurisdictional issues

(c) It can help to unearth nexus between terrorism and organised crime.

Potential of smart walls

(a) Smart walls use thermal sensors, IR cameras, satellite imagery, etc for 24x7 vigil along border

(b) They can quickly alert the forces in case of breach.

(c) Especially useful in Northeast which has dense jungles which make patrolling difficult.

However, deploying these requires political will, Centre-state cooperation and huge capital investment

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(11) Farm loan waivers are neither adequate nor recommended for promoting sustained agricultural growth. Analyze.

Ans. Farm loan waivers are announced time and again as a populist measure, usually before elections. However, they only provide short term relief with a heavy long term cost.

Issues with farm loan waivers

(a) They only benefit farmers who have taken loans from institutional sources

(b) They benefit large and medium farmers more who constitute only 14% of all farmers.

(c) Disincentivise farmers who regularly pay interest on loans.

(d) Create huge fiscal burden for

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government.

(e) More money spent on loan waivers leaves less money for creating agricultural infrastructure

(f) Adversely affects banking sector and increases NPAs.

(g) Economic Survey 2019-20 states that farm loans do not substantially improve farmers income in long run.

However, farm loan waivers have become necessary due to huge levels of farmer indebtedness and farmer suicides.

Alternatives

(a) Instead of loan waiver, income support can be provided

eg: PM KISAN.

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(b) Creating agriculture infrastructure to augment farmers income

eg: storage, transport, processing facilities, etc

(c) Providing interest subvention for farmers for timely repayment

(d) eNAM - better price discovery, more farmers income.

(e) Crop insurance - protects against indebtedness due to crop failure

Thus, we need to go beyond short term fixes like loan waivers and address the root cause of agrarian distress.

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(12) A number of initiatives in recent years have focussed on the MSME sector. Why? Identify measures taken by government and further scope of action.

Ans. MSME sector refers to the micro, small and medium enterprises in the Indian economy. Government has taken many steps to support this sector.

Need for focus on MSMEs

(a) They contribute to 28% of GDP, 40% of exports and employ more than 100 million people as per UK Sinha Committee

(b) MSMEs can help to absorb surplus labour from agriculture.

(c) They promote inclusive growth and job creation.

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(d) They can contribute to empowerment of women.

eg: Lijjat papad - women run MSME.

Measures taken by government

(a) New definition of MSMEs to help MSMEs grow in size

- → investment limit raised
- → new turnover criteria added
- → distinction between manufacturing & services removed.

(b) Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme collateral free loans to support MSMEs affected by COVID

(c) MSME fund of funds for equity infusion

(d) TREDS scheme - to address delayed payments to MSMEs.

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(e) CHAMPIONS portal - for handholding & support

(f) Separate ministry for MSME

(g) Global tenders disallowed for procurement below 200 crore to encourage MSMEs.

Further scope of action

(a) Upgrading MSME technology

(b) Skill development for MSME workers

(c) Improving quality of goods of MSMEs.

(d) Promoting MSME exports

Thus, MSMEs can help in speedy post COVID economic recovery and require ease of doing business & access to credit.

(13) Skilling the Indian population faces a 3E challenge - Education, Employment and Employability. Discuss. Suggest interventions.

Ans. India is currently experiencing a demographic shift with a large working age ~~poplation~~ population. Upskilling them requires 3E - Education, Employment & Employment.

Challenge of 3E

(a) Education :-

- As per UNICEF report, nearly half of India's youth will not have necessary skills or education to be employable in 2030.
- COVID19 has further disrupted education, as only 36% had Internet access (India Internet Report 2019).

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- While enrolment has increased, quality of education remains poor.

(b) Employment :-

- 47 lakh youth lost their jobs due to COVID19 (ILO)
- Hidden unemployment in agriculture as services-driven growth could not create enough jobs.

(c) Employability -

- Employability of graduates in India is poor
- Curriculum not aligned to industry needs

Interventions required

(a) National Education Policy 2020 recommends multidisciplinary

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education and vocational training

(b) Internships can help to act as bridge between education & employment.

(c) Expanding access to online education
eg: DIKSHA portal, Bharat Net scheme

(d) Consultation with industry in framing curriculum

(e) Focussing on labour intensive industries to improve employment.

Thus, for India to reap benefits of demographic dividend, there is need to develop our human capital

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(14) Despite its importance, agricultural marketing faces various institutional and infrastructural issues. Elaborate. Also enlist measures taken.

Ans. Agricultural marketing can be broadly defined as the various processes involved in transferring produce from farmer to end consumer.

Importance of agricultural marketing
- → ensuring remunerative price for farmers
- → affordability for consumers
- → reducing wastage

Institutional issues

(a) APMC Acts of various states have caused fragmentation of market.

(b) Large number of intermediaries

(c) Lack of transparent price discovery leads to low prices for farmers but high price paid by consumer

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(d) Multiple levies of mandi fees.

Infrastructural issues

(a) Lack of proper storage facilities lead to high wastage

(b) Poor transport links from farm to market

(c) Lack of processing facilities

Measures taken

(a) KISAN Rail & KRISHI UDAN for transport of produce

(b) Negotiable Warehouse Receipts - enable farmers to take loan against warehouse receipt.

(c) Agri Infrastructure Fund has been set up

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(d) eNAM - online network of Mandis

(e) Farm laws which aimed to create "One Nation, One Market" but had to be repealed due to farmers opposition.

(f) Model APMC Act of NITI Aayog.

Thus, there is a need to improve agricultural marketing in India to enhance farmers incomes as recommended by Ashok Dalwai committee

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(15) Marine litter is not just an environmental issue but poses a socio-economic challenge as well. Discuss. Also enumerate initiatives taken.

Ans. Marine litter has emerged as a ~~[illegible]~~ serious problem in recent years due to unsustainable tourism and poor management of waste in coastal areas.

Marine litter consists of
- → plastics & microplastics
- → broken fishing nets
- → dismantled ships
- → construction debris.

Environmental issue

(a) Marine litter is ingested by marine organisms and causes death.

(b) It leads to damage to coral reefs

(c) It disrupts breeding & migration patterns of marine life

eg. Olive Ridley.

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Socio-economic issue

(a) Waste enters human body through consumption of seafood (Biomagnification)

(b) Decline in fish yields affects coastal livelihoods

(c) Plastic waste also adversely impacts tourist experience

(d) Waste can get caught in propellors of boats & damage them.

Initiatives taken

(a) GloLitter project – global project to reduce, reuse & recycle marine waste.

(b) Suchitva Sagaram initiative of Kerala – encouraging fishermen

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to bring back waste from oceans with cash incentives.

(c) MARPOL convention - to address marine pollution

(d) Blue Flag beaches - to encourage clean beaches and ecotourism.

Thus, there is need to create public awareness to address the growing problem of marine litter which poses a serious threat to ocean ecosystem.

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(16) Assess India's vulnerability to flash floods and suggest measures for better resilience. Highlight significance of Flash Flood Guidance System operated by IMD.

Ans. Flash floods refers to floods which occur suddenly, leaving little to no time for preparedness measures.

India's vulnerability to flash floods

(a) India faces flash floods due to various factors

Natural

- cloudbursts
- glacial lake outburst flooding
- landslides

Anthropogenic

- climate change
- sudden release of water from dam
- dam breach
- unplanned urbanization

(b) Activities like improper land use,

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encroachment of wetlands, deforestation, etc. have increased risk of flash floods.

Measures for better resilience

(a) Understanding risk :- Identifying areas prone to flash floods and preparing flood hazard atlas

(b) Structural measures :-

- Building levees/ embankments along rivers
- Afforestation activities
- Repairing old & ageing dams to prevent breach
- Constructing shelters to seek refuge ~~to~~ during floods.

(c) Non structural measures :-

- Preventing encroachment of waterbodies which act as buffers.

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- Training local volunteers to assist NDRF in search & rescue.
- Community based warning networks
- mock evacuation drills.

Significance of FFGS

(a) It can help to give early warnings on occurence of flash floods.

(b) It can act as a guide for rescue teams

(c) It can help to reduce loss of lives

Thus, we need to shift from reactive to proactive approach to minimise losses due to flash floods.

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(17) Hydrogen based energy production can play a key role in clean, secure and affordable energy. Identify potential and opportunities. What are the challenges?

Ans. Hydrogen energy is considered as "fuel of the future" as it is clean, green and efficient.

Potential & opportunities of hydrogen

(a) Hydrogen can be made from a wide variety of sources

- Green hydrogen — made from renewables
- Brown hydrogen — made from coal
- Blue hydrogen — made from methane

(b) It does not emit harmful gases like SOx, NOx, CO_2, etc

(c) It can help to meet India's target of net zero by 2070

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(d) Hydrogen can act as store of energy. Excess renewable energy which is not used by grid can be diverted to make hydrogen.

(e) It can help to decarbonise hard-to-electrify sectors like long haulage shipping, heavy duty trucks, etc

(f) Shorter refuelling time of hydrogen vehicles compared to Electric vehicles.

Challenges

(a) Cost - Hydrogen technology is in nascent stage & more expensive

(b) R&D - Lack of adequate R&D on hydrogen in India (less than 1% of GDP)

(c) Safety - Difficulty of safely handling hydrogen.

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(d) Production :- Producing hydrogen itself may be energy intensive.

Way forward

National Hydrogen Energy Mission
- → creating infrastructure.
- → policy support
- → R&D
- → formulating standards & regulations.

Thus, hydrogen is simplest element of periodic table but most promising one for clean & green energy

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(18) Despite the huge promise of satellite based Internet connectivity, it hasn't gained traction on a significant commercial ~~sca~~ scale. Discuss.

Ans- Satellite based internet has immense potential of providing internet access to rural & remote areas However, it faces various challenges in implementation.

Advantages of satellite based internet

(a) Providing universal access to internet

(b) Easier to deploy on large scale compared to optical fibres

(c) Due to economies of scale, it can provide internet at low cost.

Reasons for not gaining traction

(a) Lack of private sector participation :-

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→ In USA, private space companies like Space X, Blue Origin have been at forefront of space based internet.

→ However, in India, it is mainly ISRO (public sector) which is involved.

(b) Lack of adequate R&D on space based services.

(c) Uncertain regulatory climate have hampered investments in this sector.

(d) Growth of cheap mobile data by companies like Jio, Airtel, Idea, etc have reduced interest in satellite based internet.

(e) Concerns about overcrowding of Low Earth Orbit due to satellites for

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internet

(f) Satellite based internet may be hampered by bad weather, cloudy conditions, etc.

Way forward

(a) New space-based communication policy released by Department of Space

(b) Incentivising private participation can drive competition & innovation in satellite based internet.

Thus, India needs to catch up with other countries in realising potential of this promising technology.

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(19) India's attempts at strengthening its intelligence infrastructure have been reactive and incremental rather than holistic. Discuss. Provide concrete framework for transforming it.

Ans. Intelligence gathering has become sine qua non in todays world to defend the country from threats posed by State and non-State actors.

However, India's attempts at building intelligence capabilities have been reactive & piecemeal :-

(a) Establishing office of NSA after Kargil war

(b) Formation of NIA and NATGRID (intelligence sharing portal) was in response to 26/11 attacks

Issues with this approach

(a) India is lagging behind in preparing

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to tackle new & emerging threats

eg: bioterrorism, hybrid warfare, cyberterrorism.

(b) Lack of coordination and overlap of functions of multiple agencies

(c) Reactive rather than proactive approach.

Need for holistic approach

(a) Holistic intelligence gathering

eg: cyberdata + financial data + immigration data

(b) Clear jurisdiction of different agencies

(c) Need for periodic assessment of vulnerabilities and fixing them.

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New framework for intelligence

(a) Leveraging power of technology

eg: Big Data, AI, facial recognition, etc

(b) Continuous skill upgradation initiatives for intelligence personnell.

(c) Collaborating with friendly countries

eg: India gave Srilanka intelligence on Easter Sunday attacks.

Thus, there is need to develop a holistic intelligence architecture and NSA can act as catalyst to achieve this.

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(20) In light of the prominent instances of drone attacks by both state and non-state actors, assess the challenges and capabilities of India in dealing with it.

Ans. Drones refers to unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) which can be remotely controlled. In recent years, there is increase in drone attacks.

Recent drone attacks
- → assassination of Iranian general using drone by USA
- → Houthi drone attack on Saudi oil facilities
- → Drone attack on Jammu air base

Challenges

(a) Difficult to detect as drones fly below the radar.

(b) Remote control enables perpetrators

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to avoid ~~being~~ being caught.

(c) Cross border smuggling of arms and ammunition using drones

(d) Drones have made carrying out attacks easy & low cost - "Minimum effort, Maximum damage"

Capabilities of India to deal with drones

(a) New UAV rules 2021 -

- Area around critical installations like army base, airport, nuclear plant must be declared "No fly zones"
- Registration of drones on "Digital Sky Portal"
- Pilot license needed to operate large sized drones.

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(b) DRDO is developing indigenous drone defence systems.

(c) India can also purchase "Iron Dome" air defence system from Israel.

Drones have positive uses as well in delivering food, medicines, urban planning, surveying, etc. Hence, we must balance the security risk with legitimate use of drones.

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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

① In the context of protection of monuments, explain the role of ASI. Also comment on challenges faced by ASI and measures taken to address these.

Ans. Archaeological Survey of India is one of India's oldest technical organisations established in 1861. It comes under Ministry of Culture and is mandated with protection of monuments

Role of ASI

(a) Preservation and maintenance of ancient monuments and heritage sites (eg. Taj Mahal)

(b) Declaring monuments as "sites of national importance"

(c) Carrying out excavations (eg. Lothal - Harappan site)

(d) Promoting awareness about India's archaeological heritage in India and abroad

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(e) Protecting artefacts from theft, damage, vandalism, etc.

Challenges faced by ASI

(a) Lack of adequate funding

(b) Shortage of archaeological experts.

(c) Bureaucratic delays and redtapism in completion of projects

(d) Lack of R&D has led to outdated technology

(e) Lack of coordination with other agencies
eg: Idol thefts due to poor ASI-law enforcement coordination.

Measures taken
- → PPP (public private participation) eg. Adopt a Heritage site scheme
- → Using tourism revenue for site maintenance
- → Digitisation (eg. geotagging monuments)

Thus, our monuments are our collective heritage and we need to empower ASI to preserve them for generations to come.

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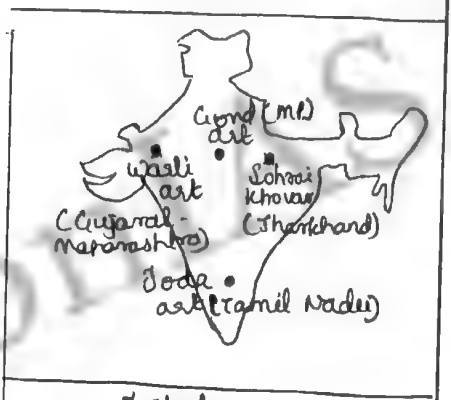
Q. Tribal art has a huge potential for acting as an economic resource and a tool for socio-economic transformation. Elucidate. Also highlight challenges.

Ans. India has a rich tradition of tribal art dating back 1000s of years. It has huge potential for socio-economic transformation of tribals

Economic potential of tribal art



Tribal art

1. Huge demand for tribal prints on clothes, bags, bedsheets, etc.
2. Export potential in international market
3. Enables income generation for tribals
4. Promotes poverty alleviation

Social transformation via tribal art

1. Women empowerment - As mostly tribal women are involved in making art

② Preserving distinct tribal way of life which is fast disappearing

③ Enabling tribal artists to showcase their talent to the world

Challenges

① Lack of awareness among tribals

② Poor marketing facilities

③ Cultural appropriation of tribal art by companies

④ Low level of digitisation

⑤ Lack of adequate state support to tribal artists.

Therefore, there is need to provide GI status to tribal art and use e-commerce & social media to give a boost to this indigenous artistic heritage

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③ Through the Government of India Act 1919, proposed some radical administrative changes, it remained short of fulfilling aspirations of Indians. Elaborate.

Ans. Government of India Act 1919 (GoI Act 1919) also called ~~Morley-M~~ Montagu-Chelmsford reforms was a landmark act.

Radical administrative changes

(a) Bicameralism at the Central level

(b) Dyarchy was introduced in provinces

Reserved subjects	Transferred subjects
administered by Governor with help of councillors not responsible to legislature	administered by Governor with Council of Ministers who were responsible to legislature
eg. finance, police, etc	eg. agriculture, health, etc

(c) Direct elections were introduced

(d) Size and powers of councils were

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expanded.

Shortcomings

(a) It fell short of "responsible government" promised in Montague declaration of 1917

(b) Separate electorates were extended to

- Sikhs
- Anglo Indians
- Indian Christians
- Europeans

This promoted 'divide and rule'

(c) Dyarchy led to 'responsibility without power' for Council of Ministers

(d) Wide discretionary powers to Governor

(e) No universal franchise.

Thus, Gandhi aptly described 1919 reforms as a "post dated cheque" highlighting disappointment of Indians.

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(4) Often deemed as the 'forgotten conflict', Korean war had far reaching implications. Elucidate.

Ans. Korean war was an outcome of the Cold war between USA and USSR in the aftermath of World War 2.

After WW2, Korea, which was under Japanese control came under the control of Allies. It became a proxy for ideological battle between capitalism & democracy of US and communism of USSR

North Korea which was under influence of USSR invaded South Korea leading to USA sending in troops to defend South Korea. Finally, a ceasefire was reached with far reaching implications

Implications of Korean war

(1) Korea divided into North and south

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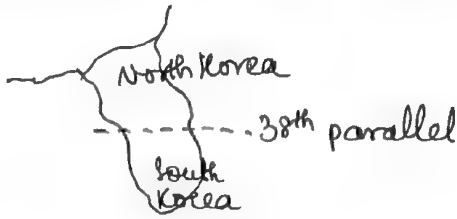
Koreas separated by 38th parallel.



(b) North Korea came under communist dictatorship (Kim Jong Un) and South Korea became a democracy.

(c) Hostilities between 2 countries led to North Korea developing nuclear weapons.

(d) Today, North Korea has moved closer to China while South Korea has close ties with USA

Thus global geopolitics have been profoundly shaped by Korean war which continues to resonate even today.

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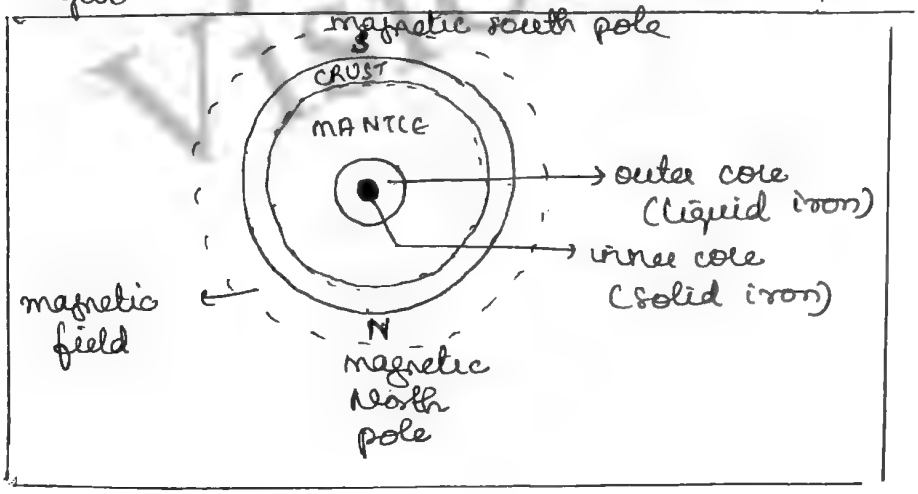
(5) Explaining the origin of Earth's magnetism, discuss its significance with special reference to its interaction with solar particles.

Ans. Earth is surrounded by a magnetic field which is known as geomagnetism.

Origin of Earth's magnetism

- It is mainly due to Earth's core which is made up of iron particles
- The rotation of the Earth sets up magnetic currents in the core which give rise to geomagnetism.



Significance of Earth's magnetism

(a) Interaction of Earth's magnetic field with solar flares ~~can~~ causes various phenomena :-

- Aurora Borealis in Arctic region or "Northern lights"
- Aurora Australis near South pole
- It can cause geomagnetic storms which disrupt satellite communication and power grids

(b) Magnetic field also protects life on Earth from harmful cosmic radiation (Van Allen radiation belt).

Thus, magnetic field around the Earth is of critical importance for survival of life on Earth.

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(6) Discussing the challenges pertaining to dam safety in India, highlight the potential of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project to address them.

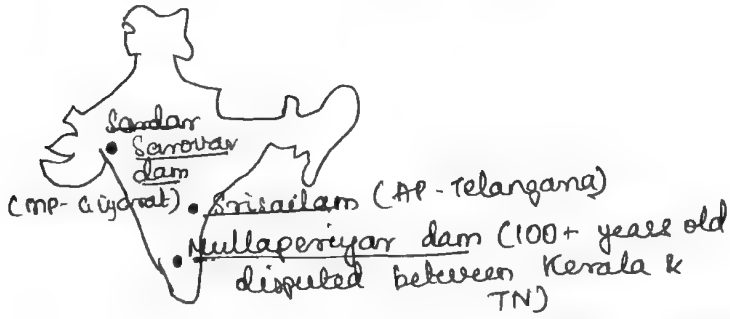
Ans. India has the third highest number of dams in the world after china and USA. Dam safety is therefore of paramount importance

Challenges of dam safety

(a) Lack of proper legal or institutional mechanism to ensure dam safety

(b) Ageing profile of dams - 25% of dams are between 50 - 100 years old (Jal Shakti ministry data)

(c) Disputes over dams :- 90% of dams are on interstate rivers with many disputes over their operation.



(d) Increase in siltation of dams

(e) Lack of uniform procedures as 'Dams' are state subject.

Potential of DRIP project

(a) World-bank funded project to improve lifespan of dams

(b) Desilbation, repairs and reinforcement of old dams

(c) Improving Dam safety SOP (Standard Operating procedure)

(d) Training dam safety experts.

(e) Conducting regular dam safety audits

DRIP project along with the new Dam safety Bill can go a long way in improving dams - 'temples of modern India'

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(7) What is understood by Carbon Compensation Depth? Discuss the implications of rise in the depth due to anthropogenic warming.

Ans. Carbon Compensation Depth refers to the amount of carbon which needs to be sequestered from atmosphere to compensate for the carbon emitted into atmosphere.

Carbon emissions	—	Carbon removal	= CCD
• Fossil fuels		• photosynthesis	
• paddy fields		• oceans (blue sink)	
• forest fires			
• wetlands			
• livestock			

Implications of rise of CCD

- Increase in global warming
- Decreasing ability of carbon sinks to sequester carbon.

eg. Oceans - warmer the temperature, less is the CO_2 retaining capacity.

- Shrinking carbon budget for developing countries
- Increase in extreme weather events - floods, droughts, cyclones, El Nino, etc

Way forward

- Switching from fossil fuels to renewables
- Preserving forests as "green sink"
- Experimental technology - capturing and storing CO_2 in depleted mines, artificial ~~leaf~~ leaf, etc

India has pledged net zero by 2070 which reflects its commitment to reducing Carbon Compensation Depth.

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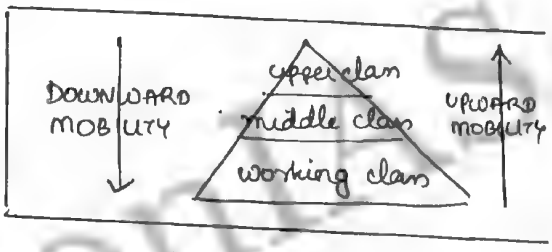
(8) Explaining the concept of social mobility and its relationship with equality, mention the impediments in ensuring it.

An. Social mobility refers to the transition of an individual or social group from one position in social hierarchy to another.

Relation with equality



(1) Societies which have high rate of social mobility are more egalitarian

(2) Social mobility indicates equality of opportunity and merit based system.

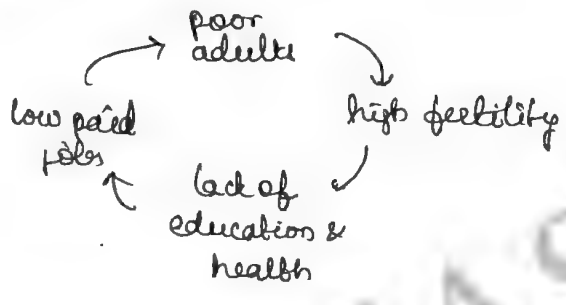
Impediments in ensuring it

(a) Lack of access to good quality education

(b) Low level of skills - Only [illegible] have formal skill training in India (PLFS)

(c) Lack of health and nutrition - 35% stunting (CNNS 2016-18)

(d) Cycle of poverty



(e) Gender barrier - only 22.2% female workforce participation rate (PLFS)

(f) Caste based discrimination.

Way forward

- Inclusive growth by focusing on MSMEs.
- Improving access to health, education (eg. Ayushman Bharat).

Social mobility is key to fulfil promise of equality and justice enshrined in constitution.

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(9) In view of demographic changes in recent decades, do you think India needs a two-child policy? Discuss in light of various strands of debate surrounding this issue.

Ans. India is expected to cross China to become most populous country by 2027 (UN report). In this context, two child policy has assumed significance

Arguments in favour

(a) Helps to reduce fertility rate faster

(b) Addresses poverty ⇒ fewer children means better access to health, nutrition, etc

(c) Empowers women by reducing burden of repeated pregnancy and child care

Arguments against

(a) India already achieved replacement level fertility of 2.0 (NFHS-5)

(b) Coercive policies may be counterpr-

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ductive as China's experience shows

eg. rapidly ageing Chinese population led to China shifting from

1 child policy → 3 child policy

(c) It may increase sex selective abortions to ensure only boys are born.

(d) Goes against rights based approach

Way forward

Instead of rigid 2 child policy we need
- → women's empowerment (education & employment)
- → improving access to contraceptives
- → raising age of marriage of girls to 21.

"Development is best contraception".

As signatory to (Cairo declaration), India must shift from coercive to rights based approach to fertility control.

(10) Globalisation is incredibly efficient but has so far been incredibly unjust. Examine the statement in context of developing countries like India.

Ans. Globalisation has been defined as rapid integration of different parts of the globe through flow of goods, services, people, capital, etc

Globalisation - incredibly efficient

(a) It has led to globalised system of production - every country exploits its comparative strength.

eg: Iphone
- designed in USA
- made in China
- customer support in India

(b) Increased competition & innovation

(c) Promoted inflow of FDI & FPI

(d) Created large number of jobs in services

(e) Emergence of gig economy - Uber, Ola - flexible & efficient.

Globalisation - incredibly unjust

(a) Increase in inequality - Top 10% own 76% of wealth while bottom 50% own 2%. (World Inequality Report)

(b) MSMEs forced to shut down due to competition from cheap imports

(c) Increase in informalisation of labour who are paid low wages, lack social security, etc

(d) Displacement of tribals due to mega projects (eg. POSCO protests)

Thus, there is need for a new paradigm of globalisation through Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan which promotes "Vocal for local" and creates opportunities for all.

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(11) " It would not be completely wrong to state that in India, art is religion and religion is art". Discuss impact of various religions on art in India, citing relevant examples.

Ans. Art and religion are intimately linked in Indian society since time immemorial.

Impact of religion on Indian art

(a) Art provided a means to express devotion to God during the Bhakti period

eg. Gita Govinda painting of Guler-Kangri school of art

(b) Themes of art were drawn from religious epics, myths, legends, etc

eg. Scenes from Ramayana, Mahabharata were painted on temple walls.

(c) Influence of various religions can

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be seen as follows:-

- Hinduism :

→ Cave paintings of Ellora, Badami, etc. depicted Hindu Gods and Goddesses

→ Scroll paintings of Eastern India such as Patua art narrated stories from Hindu mythology

eg. Cult of Puri Jagannath (Odisha)

→ Temple paintings of Cholas, Vijaynagara school, etc

eg. Lepakshi temple paintings, Tanjore paintings.

- Buddhism :-

→ Cave paintings depicted life of Buddha & Bodhisattva

eg. Ajanta, Bagh paintings.

→ Miniature art of Palas was a vehicle of "Tantric Buddhism"

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- Jainism :- Sittanavasal cave paintings, Udayagiri Khandagiri art, Ellora cave paintings reflect Jain themes

eg. paintings of Mahavira attaining Kevalya

→ Apabramsha school of Western India made miniature art.

- Tribal religions :- Tribal art was also influenced by local religious traditions, deities, myths, legends, etc.

eg. Fish motif in Madhubani art had religious significance of "good luck"

In recent years, due to lack of patronage, many artforms are disappearing which needs to be addressed.

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(12) Despite organisational apathy from INC in its initial years, the working class in various parts of the country subsequently participated in national movement. Discuss.

Ans. Working class emerged in India in mid 19th century with growth of railways, cotton and jute mills. In early years, working class did not get much support from INC.

Reasons for organisational apathy of INC

- To prevent divisions in national movement on class lines
- To encourage growth of Swadeshi industries
- workers movement was localised, sporadic in early years
- to avoid alienating capitalist class.

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Hence, INC opposed Factory Acts of [1881] and [1891]

However, this changed over the years due to various reasons:-

(a) Shift from moderate to extremist leadership within INC

eg Extremist leaders like Tilak supported workers cause

(b) Swadeshi movement - first mass participation of workers in national struggle.

(c) Russian Revolution of 1917 and Formation of ILO in 1919 gave a big impetus to working class movement

(d) Growth of trade unions, culminating in formation of [AITUC] in 1920.

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Workers were politicised by various means :-

(a) Gandhi - Ahmedabad mill workers satyagraha ⇒ showed workers how to fight non-violently for their rights.

(b) CPI - mobilised workers on Marxist lines

As a result, workers participated in huge numbers in Non-cooperation & Civil Disobedience movement. While there was a decrease during Quit India movement, all in all, they played a key role in India's struggle for freedom.

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(13) Though some of the early measures restored faith among the Indians in the liberal tradition of England, Ripon's tenure did not bring about significant change in colonial bureaucracy. Elucidate.

Ans Lord Ripon served as Governor General of India between (1880 - 1884). His tenure was marked by various liberal and progressive reforms.

Early measures of Ripon

(a) Revoking draconian Vernacular Press Act 1878 ⇒ liberated Indian press.

(b) Laid the foundation of local self government

(c) Established Hunter Commission to suggest educational reforms.

(d) Factory Act of 1881 was passed during his reign which tried to

regulate child labour in early industries

However, he failed to bring about significant changes in colonial bureaucracy as seen in :-

(a) Opposition to Ilbert bill which allowed Indian judges to try Europeans

(b) Local self government remained only on paper as bureaucracy resisted devolution of powers to newly formed district boards.

(c) Bureaucracy continued to exercise vast discretionary powers to stifle dissent.

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(d) Government expenditure on education remained abysmal ⇒ education remained privilege of elites.

(e) Persistence of corruption, racist attitudes and lack of adequate Indianisation in civil services.

Nevertheless, Ripon's tenure led to beginning of certain administrative reforms which were carried forward in later years.

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(14) The New Social Movements in post independence period made an important beginning in awakening the society against injustices and deepened democracy in India. Discuss.

Ans. New Social Movements (NSM) refers to a new wave of movements which became prominent in 1960s and 1970s.

Features of NSM

(a) They functioned outside party framework and were led by people & civil society

(b) They used non-violent methods

(c) They raised issues of human rights, identity and autonomy, environment, etc.

(d) They did not directly challenge state power but sought to pressurise State to take measures.

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eg. of NSM → environmental movement,
tribal movement,
backward classes movement,
women's movement
LGBTQ movement, etc.

Importance of NSM

(a) They raised issues of marginalised groups and the injustices they faced

eg. Safai Karamchari Andolan ⇒ manual scavengers.

(b) They helped to showcase the dysfunctional aspects of modern development projects

eg. Narmada Bachao Andolan.

(c) They led to spread of environmental consciousness

eg. Chipko movement

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(d) They enabled new middle classes in post LPG reforms period to actively participate in democracy

eg. Nirbhaya protests - largely led by young middle class women

(e) Today, they are using social media and mass media to develop global linkages

eg. Fridays for Future - environment movement.

Thus, NSM have helped to revitalise Indian democracy and make it more participative.

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(15) What are the reasons for recurrent and often catastrophic wildfires in places like Australia and USA? Are there any lessons to be learnt by India?

Ans. Recently, catastrophic wildfires were seen in Australia and USA which destroyed thousands of hectares of forests, led to death of wildlife and displaced people.

Reasons for wildfires

(a) Climate change - increase in extreme weather events have heightened risk of wildfires

eg. Australian bushfires due to IOD induced drought (Indian Ocean Dipole)

- US bushfires due to unprecedented heatwaves

(b) Human error
- → unextinguished bonfires by campers
- → unburnt cigarettes
- → slash & burn agriculture

(c) Deliberate arson to clear forests for agriculture, habitation, etc

(d) Lack of preparedness of authorities.

Lessons for India

(a) Need to prepare Fire ~~Safety~~ Hazard Atlas to identify most fire prone forests

(b) Before every fire season, preparatory measures must be taken :-

- creating firelines which prevent fire from spreading
- keeping fire extinguishers on standby
- constant vigil with help of drones, satellites, etc

(c) Involving local community in

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detection, prevention and control of forest fires

(d) Creating awareness among tourists, campers, locals not to leave fires unattended.

(e) Countering climate change - Net zero by 2070.

"Prevention is better than cure" - Thus, it is desirable to control wildfires through preparedness, alertness and awareness to safeguard our forest wealth.

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(16) Discuss why India needs a cross border flood management mechanism. Also, ~~suggest~~ state major issues in cross border flood management and suggest remedial measures.

Ans. Floods are a recurring natural disaster in India which annually cause huge loss to life and property.

Need for cross border flood management

(a) ~~Most~~ Many rivers in India are transboundary rivers

(b) Unplanned & sudden release of water from dams by upper riparian country causes floods in India.

eg. Nepal releasing Kosi water ⇒ floods in Bihar.

(c) Exchange of hydrological information can help better preparedness.

eg. China providing information on flows in Brahmaputra.

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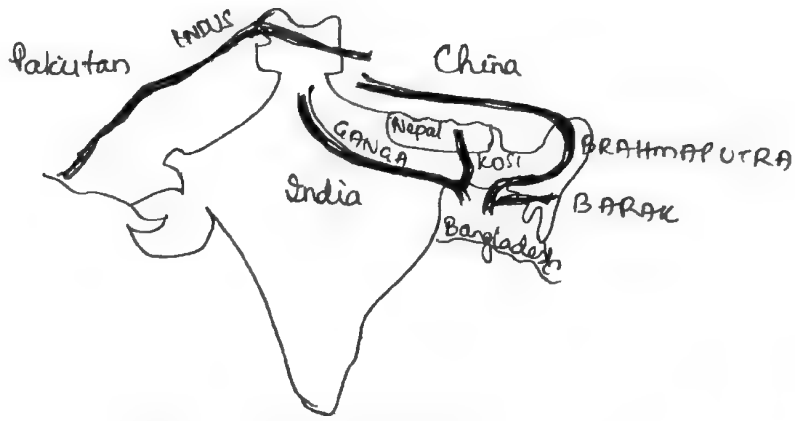

Some transboundary rivers

(Major issues)

(a) Disputed rivers with neighbouring countries
eg. Teesta river (India - Bangladesh)

(b) Hydrological ties subordinated to geopolitical tensions

eg. China refusing to share data on Brahmaputra

(c) Lack of institutional or treaty based mechanism

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(d) Shortage of hydrological experts in South Asia.

Remedial measures

(a) Diplomatic efforts - Benefits to both sides from such an arrangement must be explained.

(b) Collaboration between hydrologists of both sides for joint R&D.

As climate change is expected to exacerbate problem of flooding, we need a cross border flood management system urgently.

VisionIAS

(17) Depletion of water resources in India is both a geoclimatic phenomenon as well as a result of some short sighted government policies. Discuss.

Ans. India has 4% of world's water resources but 17% of world's population. This has led to depletion of water resources.

Causes

(a) Geoclimactic causes :-

- Climate change causing melting of glaciers, drying up of Himalayan springs
- Erratic monsoon patterns
- Seasonal nature of peninsular rivers

(b) Government policies :-

- Free power to farmers ⇒ depletion of groundwater
- Unplanned urbanisation leading to acute water shortage (eg - Chennai in 2019)

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- Failure to clear encroachments from natural reservoirs like lakes and wetlands

- Approvals to water guzzling industries in water scarce areas
  (eg. Coca Cola plants)

- Lack of comprehensive water policy – Water is managed in silos
  eg. Groundwater – CGWB
  Surface water – CWC
  } 2 different agencies

- High MSP for water intensive crops
  eg. Rice & sugarcane

- Neglecting traditional water harvesting measures
  eg. Eris of TN, Khadin of Rajasthan.

Way forward

- Recommendations of Mihir Shah committee

(a) Participatory Groundwater management instead of top down model

(b) Creating Water User Associations

(c) Shifting to water efficient crops like Millets, pulses etc through MSP incentives.

(d) Promoting rainwater harvesting, microirrigation

(eg. PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Per Drop more crop)

"Jal hai to Jeevan hai". Hence, there is need to use every drop judiciously to prevent depletion of water resources.

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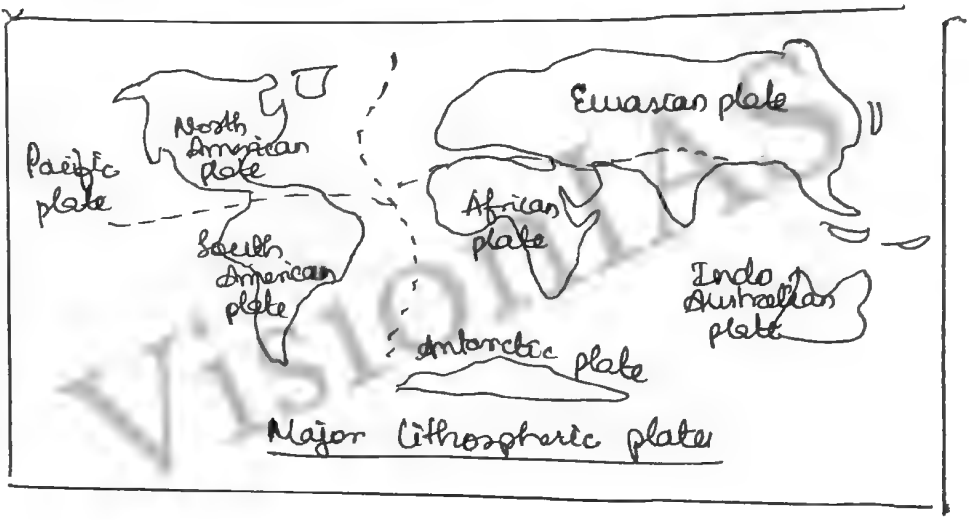
(18) What are the major lithospheric plates? How and why do these plates move?

Ans. Lithospheric plates are irregularly shaped blocks of earth's crust and upper mantle which float on Asthenosphere.



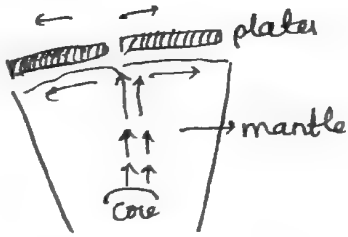
Major Lithospheric plates

Movement of plates

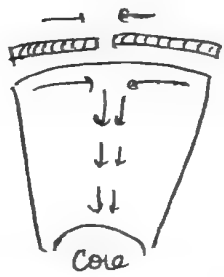
(a) It is due to convection currents in mantle which are formed due to

- radioactive decay
- primordial heat

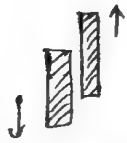
(b) They move in 3 ways :-



Divergent plates



convergent plates



(Vertical view)

Transform plates

(c) Movement of plates causes various phenomena such as :-

- Earthquakes
- Volcanoes (eg. Mt Fuji)
- Fold mountains (eg. Himalayas - convergence of Eurasian & Indian plates)
- Island arcs (eg. Japan - Pacific plate & Japanese plate convergence)

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- mid oceanic ridges (eg. divergence of African & South American plate forms Midatlantic ridge)

- Rift valleys (eg. East African rift valley)

Thus, movement of tectonic plates is a key geomorphic force which shapes Earth's landforms.

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(19) There exists a wide gap between the constitutionally professed secularism and its practice in India. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Ans. Secularism in India does not mean rigid separation of State and religion but rather principled distance of State from all religions.

Constitutional secularism
- → Preamble - India as "secular" State
- → freedom of religion - Articles 25, 26, 27, 28
- → special protection for minorities Articles 29, 30

Gap between constitution and reality

(a) State is actively involved in management of temples which dilutes its secular credentials.

(b). State subsidising Haj pilgrimage

(c) Secularism as a constitutional value not fully endorsed by people

eg: Sabarimala dispute

(d) Prevalence of communal riots

(e) Parties and leaders appealing for votes in the name of religion.

However, secularism can be seen even in practice in India :-

(a) Pew Research study - 84% Indians believe respecting all religions is important to being 'truly Indian'.

(b) State gives ~~to~~ holidays for festivals of all religions (eg Diwali, Id, Christmas, Guru Purab).

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(c) State does not discriminate on basis of religion in jobs, admissions, etc.

Thus, secularism in India is a mixed bag. While it is seen to be espoused by people in some contexts, it remains only on paper in others.

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(20) India spends less than 1% of GDP on care work infrastructure and services. Explain how increased public investment in care economy infrastructure can be instrumental in meeting multiple policy objectives.

Ans. Care work can be defined as a wide range of services involved in providing supportive care to people.

eg. creche facilities, old age home, etc

Importance of care economy

(a) Promotes women's empowerment as mostly women are engaged in care work

(b) Improves quality of life for citizens

(c) Helps to ensure well being of elderly in context of nuclearisation of family.

(d) Creates large number of jobs

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(e) Helps in better child development

(f) Supports sick and disabled people.

Issues in investing in care work

(a) Most of the care work happens in informal sector

(b) Lack of proper training & skilling facilities for care workers

(c) Care workers lack job security, social security, etc (eg. domestic maids)

(d) Demand for care work increased during pandemic but supply is limited.

Way forward

(a) Promoting formalising of care work

(b) Establishing courses and standards for care training

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(c) New policy on carework to streamline the sector

(d) Learn from best practices of countries like EU, USA, etc. where carework is given due respect and good wages.

Thus, care work can help to address problem of unemployment while provide support and care to those who need it.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1811)

Name of Candidate	N Chetana reddy		
Medium Eng./Hindi	english	Registration Number	971773
Center	online	Date	06-05-2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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① Assess the performance of Jan Dhan Yojana in achieving the objective of financial inclusion. 10m

Ans. Financial inclusion is sine-qua non for ensuring inclusive growth. In this context, Jan Dhan Yojana was launched to open zero-balance savings account for unbanked population in the country.

Performance of Jan Dhan Yojana

Positives:-

(a) As per Global Findex Database, Jan Dhan Yojana increased share of population with bank account

2014 :	53%
2018 :	80%

(b) JAM trinity (Jan Dhan - Aadhar - Mobile) used for Direct benefit transfers, reducing leakages.

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(c) Overdraft facility upto Rs 10,000

(d) Enabled farmers to receive income support under PM KISAN

(e) Enabled pregnant women to receive maternity benefits PM Matru Vandana

(f) Enabled cash transfers to vulnerable groups during COVID19 pandemic

Challenges -

(a) High cost of maintaing in zero balance account for banks

(b) 20% population still unbanked

(c) Lack of financial literacy

(d) Disparities in financial inclusion for SC, ST, women, etc.

Going forward, there is need to leverage digital payments to enable PM JDY to reach wider population.

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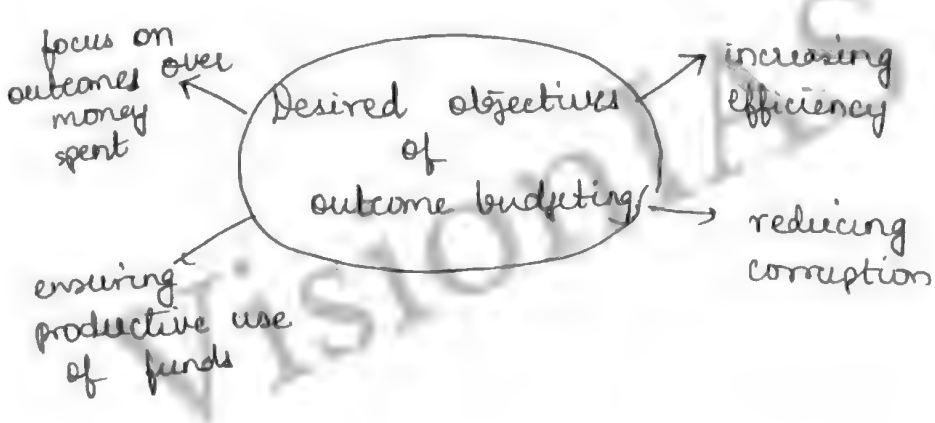
(2) Bring out the challenges that need to be addressed to achieve the desired objectives of outcome budgeting in India. 10m

Ans. Outcome budgeting refers to allocation of budgetary resources based on achievement of outcomes.



Challenges :-

(a) Time consuming & cumbersome nature of outcome budgeting

(b) Bureaucratic inertia to change

(c) Lack of proper data on outcomes

(d) certain expenditures are pre-committed and cannot be reviewed
eg: salaries of government officials

(e) Inspite of funds, issues such as lack of availability of land, non-cooperation of locals, delay in clearances prevent outcomes from being realised.

Way forward

(a) Need for systemic shift from focus on inputs to focus on outcome at all levels- Centre, State & local bodies

(b) Leveraging technology to monitor outcomes
eg: GIS mapping assets created under MGNREGA

(c) Gathering data on outcomes of schemes, with help of NGDS

Thus, outcome budgeting can help increase efficiency and achieve inclusive growth

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(3) Explain the working of Private Finance Initiative (PFI) model. Also, discuss its significance in the Indian context.

Ans. For a developing country like India which is capital-hungry, Private Finance Initiative can help in spurring investment & growth

Working of PFI

- It involves raising finance for infrastructure & developmental projects from private entities.
- It can be secured/ unsecured loan.
- eg:- Peer-to-peer lending, InVITs, REITs, etc.

Significance

(a) Government finance is constrained by fiscal deficit limitations. PFI can overcome this.

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(b) Enables companies to raise capital at a lower rate

(c) Helps in faster infrastructure development

(d) Job creation

(e) Credit access to MSMEs

(f) Boosts exports

(g) Enables investors to earn good returns.

Way forward

→ Leveraging technology to give a boost to PFI

→ Simplifying regulatory framework for PFI

Thus, PFI can help in achieving goal of $5 trillion economy.

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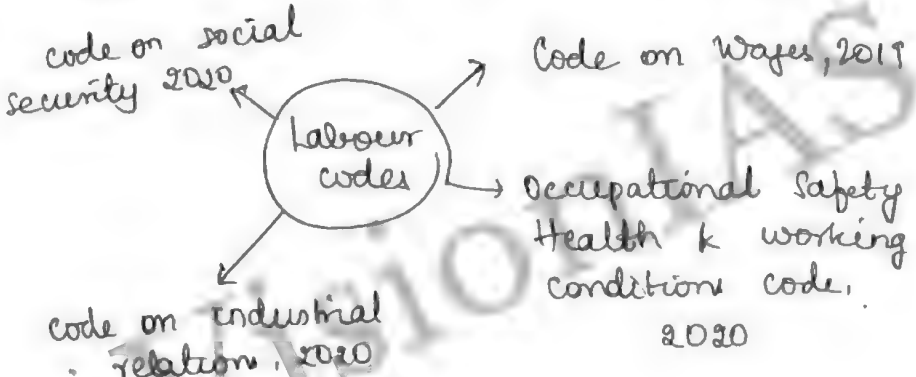
(q) Highlighting the significance of new labour codes for India, discuss the challenges associated with them.

Ans. Labour reforms are an important aspect of Ease of Doing Business in India. In this context, government has introduced 4 new labour codes



Significance

(a) Consolidation of multiple labour laws

(b) Reduces cost of compliance for employers

(c) Reduces litigation due to multiple, overlapping law

(d) Ease of doing business - "One license,

one registration, one return".

(e) Fixes national statutory floor wage
→ universalises minimum wage
→ reduces regional disparity in wages

(f) Introduces FTE - fixed term employment

(g) provides social security for unorganised gig & platform workers

(h) gender equality - women allowed to work beyond 7 pm

Challenges :-

(a) Informalisation of labour may increase with FTE

(b) ~~Reducing~~ increasing threshold from 100 to 300 for government permission ⇒ easier to hire & fire workers.

(c) statutory floor wage fixed too low (Rs 178/ day) - starvation wage not living wage.

Thus, labour codes are step in right direction to ensure ease of doing business in India.

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(5) PDS in India is not only a significant anti-poverty measure but also serves as an instrument of raising ~~national~~ nutritional security. Discuss. 10m

Ans. PDS is a system under National Food Security Act to provide 5kg rice/wheat per person per month to 67% of population.

PDS - antipoverty measure

(a) Reduces expenditure of poor on food ⇒ spend more on health, education, etc

(b) Improving nutrition leads to more productive workforce ⇒ better livelihood earning ability

(c) Procurement at MSP from farmers of PDS ⇒ ensures remunerative prices.

PDS - nutritional security

(a) reduces hunger, stunting & wasting

(b) Ensures good maternal nutrition leading to healthy babies

(c) No famine occured since independence thanks to PDS.

Challenges

(a) Migrant labour out of PDS net

(b) High level of leakages - 30 to 40% (Shanta Kumar Committee)

(c) Mounting food subsidy bill for government

(d) Over-reliance on cereals, lacking in balanced diet

Way forward

(a) One Nation, One Ration scheme

(b) Plugging ~~the~~ leakages - Aadhar linking of ration cards, GPS for food trucks, etc.

(c) Shanta-Kumar Committee - cash transfers or food coupons instead of PDS

Thus, PDS is key to achieving SDG # 2 of no hunger.

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6. It is argued that excessive state intervention in itself has created multiple hurdles in the agricultural marketing system in India. Explain with adequate evidence. 10m

Ans. As per the Economic Survey, agri-marketing system in India is plagued by numerous inefficiencies and excessive State intervention is one of the root causes.

Excessive State intervention :-

(a) APMC Acts restrict freedom of farmer to sell their produce

(b) Multiple APMC Acts by states have created barriers to agri-trade and caused fragmentation of markets

(c) Multiple levies of mandi fees by APMCs increase cost of produce for consumers

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(d) High MSP has led to overproduction of wheat & rice and increased import dependence for pulses, oilseeds, etc.

eg: India imports 60% of its edible oil requirement

(e) Shanta Kumar Committee ⇒ Only 6% farmers benefit from MSP

(f) Essential Commodities Act → arbitrary imposition of stock limits.

Way forward

(a) 3 new farm laws which -
→ allow farmers to trade outside APMC
→ allow contract farming
→ ease restrictions under essential commodities Act

(b) e-NAM to enable buyers & sellers to connect directly.

(c) Government intervention must be limited to creation of storage, improving transport, etc.

Thus, there is need to give freedom to farmers to ensure doubling of farmers income by 2022.

(j) Bring out the inefficiencies that plague the core road logistics business in India. Also, suggest ways to overcome them. (150W)

Ans. In India, more than 50% of freight transport happens via roadways. However, road logistics is hindered by various inefficiencies.

Inefficiencies

(a) Congestion of roadways ⇒ increases cost & time of transport

(b) Lack of integration with other modes of transport ⇒ rail & waterways.

(c) Lack of finances to expand road network

(d) NITI Aayog ⇒ lack of adequate funds for road maintenance

(e) Regional disparity:- High density of roads in Western & South India, low in Northeast.

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(f) Road accidents which cause loss of life & property.

Ways to overcome them

(a) Bharatmala project:-

→ Development of multimodal logistics parks

→ Identifying choke points and building bypass roads

→ Extending road network in hilly areas, Northeast, etc.

(b) Improving access to finance:-

→ National Infrastructure pipeline

→ New PPP models - HAM Hybrid Annuity Model

→ InVITs

(c) Leveraging technology - remote sensing, AI, IoT, etc to increase efficiency of roads.

Thus, improving roads can reduce logistics cost from 14% to 9% as per National Logistics policy.

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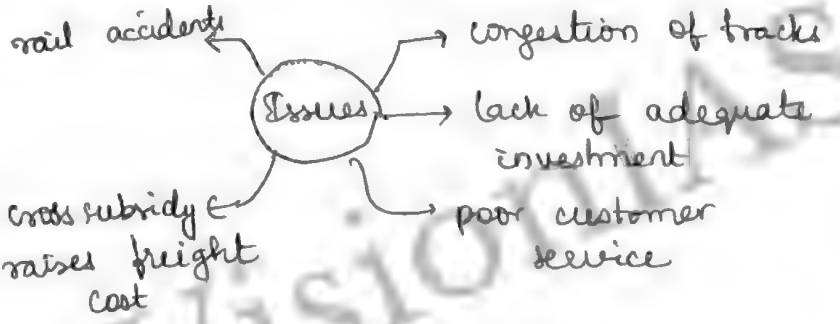
(8) Discuss the opportunities and challenges in privatisation of railways in India.

150 W

Ans. Indian Railways is world's largest passenger carrier and also transports 33% of total freight in the country. However, it has various issues.



Opportunities of privatisation

(a) Attracting private investment to railways

(b) Improving quality of customer service by increasing competition

eg: hygienic food, punctuality, etc

(c) Expanding railway network to reduce congestion

(d) Lowering logistics cost from 14% to 9%.

(e) Job creation

Challenges :-

(a) Increased price of ticket ⇒ unaffordable to poor

(b) Private sector may not be willing to run trains in underserved areas

(c) Risk of rail accidents increasing

(d) Lack of Ease of Doing Business is a hindrance to attracting private investments.

Way forward :-

① As recommended by Bibek Debroy committee, railways regulator must be introduced

② Government must subsidise travel for poor or incentivise private sector to do so

Thus, privatisation of railways can help ensure efficient, competitive & customer-centric railways.

(a) Identifying the key elements under the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM), explain how it can help achieve the goal of 'Sweet Revolution' in India.

Ans. In an effort to double farmers income by 2022, government has launched National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM).

Key elements

(a) Beekeepers to be regarded as farmers ⇒ access to credit, insurance, etc will improve

(b) Subsidised loans for setting up beekeeping enterprises

(c) Support in marketing of honey, pollen, beewax and other products

(d) Women's SHGs, farmers cooperatives, etc to be encouraged in beekeeping

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(e) Ensuring phytosanitary standards
(f) Boosting honey exports
(g) Training manpower in beekeeping

How it can achieve 'Sweet Revolution'

(a) Risk reduction :- beekeeping as a fallback in case of crop failure
(b) Supplementing income from agriculture
(c) Women's empowerment
(d) Enabling landless families to earn income
(e) Improving nutrition security
(f) Bees are pollinators which can increase crop yields

Challenges
- → lack of awareness of farmers
- → pesticides are harmful to bees
- → lack of marketing ability

Thus, there is need to promote beekeeping to ensure poverty alleviation and nutrition.

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(10) It has been argued that remedying the exclusion of majority of the women from access to and control of rural land in India is one of the most significant steps that can be taken towards enhancing the country's rural livelihoods. In this context, identify the challenges in access to land rights by women. What measures can be taken? 150W

Ans. Traditionally, women have been denied ownership of land. This has led to gender inequality in rural areas.

How land rights for women can improve rural livelihoods

(a) Feminisation of agriculture :- As per Agriculture Census, share of women's farmers increased from 13% to 14%.

(b) Land rights enable women farmers to access :-

→ income support under PM KISAN

→ insurance under Fasal Bima Yojana

→ formal credit by using land as collateral

(c) It can increase women's decision making power in household leading to better nutrition, education, smaller family size, etc

Challenges :-

(a) Patriarchy - Traditional norms ~~are~~ deny land rights to women

(b) Lack of awareness of women

(c) Lack of financial independence of women

(d) Lack ability to fight for rights in court.

Way forward :-

(a) Through SHGs, women can be made aware about their rights.

(b) NGOs - can help women to legally register their land rights

(c) Government scheme benefits can be linked to women being co-owner of land.

Thus, land rights for women can enable rural development & gender equality.

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(11) Discuss the factors constraining industrial growth in the post-liberalisation period and the initiatives taken by the government to address them. 250 W

Ans. Inspite of nearly 3 decades since LPG reforms, industrial growth remains stunted. Manufacturing accounts for only 16% of GDP compared to more than 40% in China.

Need for robust industrial growth,
- inclusive growth.
- to absorb surplus labour from agriculture
- industry is backbone of economy
- exports
- reducing import dependence

Factors constraining industrial growth

(a) Lack of infrastructure - power, roads, railways, waterways, etc

(b) Access to finance
- → High NPAs of banks
- → NBFC crisis
- → lack of corporate bond market

(c) Ease of Doing Business:

→ As per World Bank, starting a business in India takes 18 days compared to 1 days in Singapore

→ Multiple & complex labour laws

→ Delays in getting clearances

(d) Lack of skilled labour :-

PLFS-2018-19 ⇒ Less than 5% labour have formal training

(e) Inverted duty structure :- tax on import of raw materials higher than finished product

(f) Lack of economies of scale & quality standards

(g) Capital intensive industries (pharma, iron & steel, etc) received more focus than labour intensive ones (textiles, footwear) in which India has comparative advantage

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Initiatives taken

(a) Production linked incentive scheme

(b) New definition for MSMEs to help them grow & realise economies of scale

(c) Consolidation of labour laws - 4 codes

(d) Development of industrial corridors
eg: Delhi Mumbai Industrial corridor

(e) National Infrastructure pipeline
eg: Dedicated freight corridor, Bharatmala, etc. to reduce logistics cost from 14% to 1%

(f) Increasing access to credit - revival of banks & NBFCs.

Thus, rapid industrial growth is need of hour to help in revival of economy after COVID19.

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(12) Analyze the causes and consequences of growing economic inequality in India. Also suggest some measures to deal with it. 250W

Ans. As per Oxfam report, top 1% Indians own 4 times more wealth than bottom 70%. Growing inequality poses a challenge to achieving inclusive growth.

Causes

(a) Services driven growth which has benefitted only small section of population

(b) Poor state of manufacturing - only 16% of GDP

(c) Agriculture - contributes 14% of GDP but employs nearly 50% of population.

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(d) As per Amartya Sen, poor quality of human capital is driving inequality

→ Health (less than 1.5% of GDP on health)

→ Education (poor learning outcomes, 40% children in class 1 cannot recognise letters - ASER 2019)

→ Skills (PLFS 2018-19: less than 5% have formal skills training)

(e) COVID19 - exacerbated existing inequalities

(f) Lack of financial inclusion - 20% of Indians do not have bank accounts (Global Findex database)

(g) Discrimination faced by women, SC, ST, etc.

Consequences

(a) Economic :- Economic growth cannot be sustained with growing inequality

(b) Social :- Gender, class, caste differences become more acute.

(c) Political :- Discontent among poor can cause conflict & political instability

(d) Environment :- intra generational equity in use of nature's resources cannot be achieved.

Measures

(a) COVID19 related
- → cash transfers
- → free food supply
- → PM Garib Kalyan Yojana

(b) Need to promote MSMEs which employ more than 100 million people

(c) Increasing spending on health to 2-5 % of GDP

(d) National Education Policy, 2020

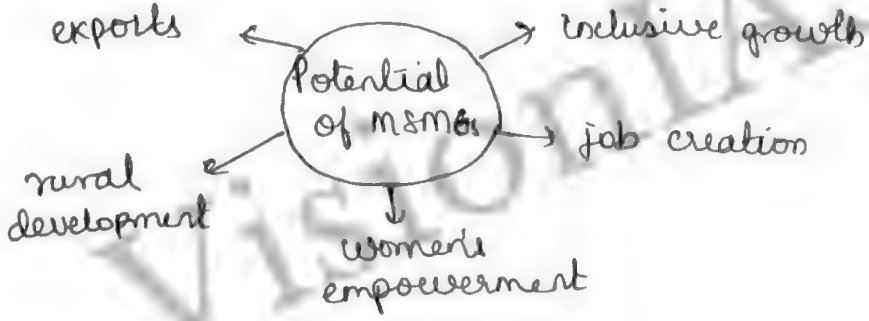
(e) PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana

(f) Need to promote manufacturing in ~~the~~ labour intensive sectors (textiles, footwear, etc)

Thus, there is need to reduce inequality to fulfil Article 39 of DPSP.

(13) There have been a number of hurdles in achieving the potential of MSMEs in Indian economy. Explain. What measures have been taken to deal with them? 250W

Ans. As per UK Sinha Committee, MSMEs contribute to 28% of GDP, 40% of exports and employ more than 100 million people.



Hurdles :-

(a) Small size of MSMEs - prevents economies of scale

(b) Access to finance -

- NBFC crisis
- high NPAs of banks

(c) Low productivity of labour

(d) Lack marketing ability to reach wider consumer base

(e) Lack of quality standards ⇒ hinders export potential

(f) Pending dues of government & private sector MSMEs ⇒ shortage of working capital

Measures :-

(a) New definition for MSMEs -

- additional turnover criteria added
- distinction between services & manufacturing ~~removed~~ removed
- investment limit raised

This will enable MSMEs to grow in size.

(b) Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme

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to assist COVID19 affected MSMEs

(c) mandatory for government agencies to procure [25%] from MSMEs.

(d) Marketing support for MSMEs (eg: e-commerce)

(e) ZED manufacturing - Zero Effect, Zero Defect

(f) TReDS - to prevent shortage of working capital due to pending dues.

(g) Production Linked Incentive Scheme

Thus, there is a need to go "Vocal for Local" and support MSMEs which are key for "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

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(14) Critically analyze the suggestion of allowing large corporate and industrial houses to act as Promoters of banks.

25010

Ans. Recently, internal working group of RBI proposed allowing industrial houses to act as promoters of banks.

Benefits

→ Privatization of public sector banks will attract more bidders

→ Large capital base of corporates can be tapped into

→ Increase in competition in banking sector, better customer service

→ Increase credit flow to industry & infrastructure

→ faster economic growth & job creation

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Concerns :-

→ Connected lending :- Bank lending to corporate house or its subsidiaries

→ Moral hazard :- Bank cannot exercise independent scrutiny of loans to be granted, due to pressure from promoters

→ Increase in bank frauds (eg: PMC bank, Yes Bank, etc)

→ Threatens financial stability of banking system

→ Adverse impact on depositors in event of bank failure

→ Increase in NPAs in long run.

Way forward

- Strengthening regulatory system to

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catch instances of fraud, connected lending, etc

As recommended by former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, it may be better to not allow corporate houses to act as promoters of banks.

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(15) Financial stability is generally the domain of monetary authority. However, the fiscal policy of the government has the potential to either facilitate or undermine it. Analyze it in Indian context. 15M.

Ans. The monetary authority or the Central Bank has the mandate to ensure financial stability in the country.

How RBI ensures financial stability

(a) Monetary Policy Committee fixes key policy rates - repo, reverse repo, etc

(b) maintains inflation in target range of 2% to 6%

(c) intervenes in forex markets to curb volatility in rupee

(d) Conducts Open market operations to regulate money supply in economy

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(d) Acts as lender of last resort to banks

(f) Manages country's forex reserves

How fiscal policy can facilitate it

(a) Controlling fiscal deficit keeps inflation in check

(b) Price stabilisation fund, reducing import duties, etc. can help in reducing food inflation

(c) Government taxes (excise, VAT, cess, surcharge, etc) on fuel can be reduced to control fuel inflation.

(d) Recapitalisation of banks

(e) Support to exports can reduce CAD & increase forex reserves

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How fiscal policy undermines it

(a) Fiscal deficit increasing leads to higher inflation

(b) Increased government borrowing causes yields to rise.

(c) Loan waivers can increase instability of banking system.

(d) Cash transfers, increased government spending, populist measures, etc. increase money supply & cause inflation.

Thus, there is need for RBI & government to work together to ensure financial stability (eg: Financial Stability council with finance minister & RBI Governor)

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(7) What do you understand by e-agriculture? Explaining how ICT can help agriculture, highlight some initiatives taken by the government in this regard. 15M

Ans. E-agriculture refers to the use of Information & communication technology to enhance agricultural productivity.

How ICT can help agriculture

(a) Marketing :- e-NAM can help farmers get remunerative prices

(b) Weather advisories :- eg: ISRO's Bhuvan can help farmers know right time to sow, harvest, etc.

(c) Crop diseases :- Increasing knowledge of farmer about pest management,

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eg: farmer can click picture of worm & send to experts for analysis

(d) Insurance & credit :- GIS mapping of land can ensure easy access to insurance & credit

(e) Efficient irrigation :- Using IoT to turn ON & OFF the sprinklers

(f) Hiring machinery via apps.
eg: Uber for tractors

(g) Help farmers share best practices, learn about new technologies, etc.

Government Initiatives

(a) KVKs - Krishi Vigyan Kendras to train farmers in use of ICT

(b) e-agriculture as a part of Digital India Mission

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(c) Launching e-NAM

(d) KISAN TV for information on crops, new technologies, etc.

Challenges

(a) Lack of digital literacy

(b) Low internet penetration in rural areas (27% as per India Internet Report 2019)

(c) 86% farmers small & marginal ⇒ lack access to smartphone, electricity, etc.

(d) Inadequate digital content in vernacular languages

Thus, as recommended by Ashok Dalwai committee there is need to promote e-agriculture for doubling farmers income.

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(16) Discuss the issues plaguing crop procurement in India. Also, suggest measures to strengthen the procurement framework. 15M

Ans. Government announces MSP for 23 crops and undertakes procurement via food corporation of India (FCI) from where it is distributed to states.

Issues :-

(a) Benefits only 6% of farmers, as per Shanta Kumar Committee

(b) Regional disparity :- procurement mostly from Punjab, Haryana, Western UP and very low from Eastern India

(c) Crop disparity :- While MSP is announced for 23 crops, procurement is mostly for wheat & rice

(d) Lack of storage - leads to rotting of grains

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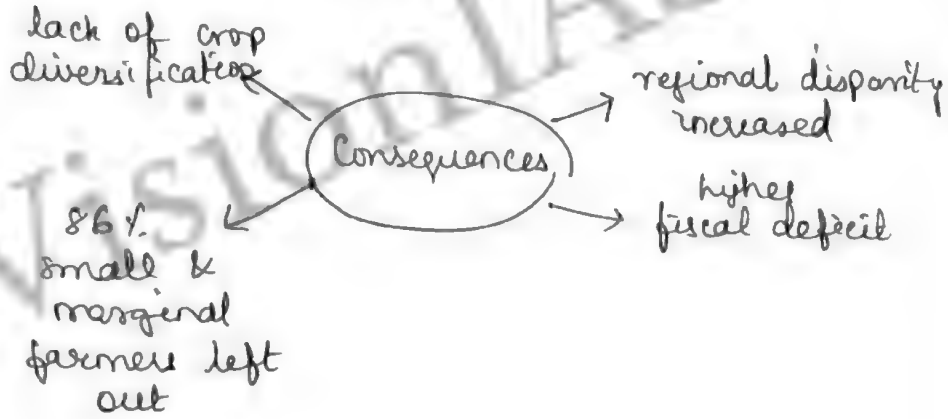
(e) High level of leakages - 30 to 40% as per Shanta Kumar committee

(f) Rising food subsidy bill due to procurement in excess of need

(g) WTO ⇒ developed countries filed complaints against India's crop procurement.



Measures :-

As per Shanta Kumar Committee, following measures need to be taken :-

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(a) Decentralised procurement :- FCI must allow states which have efficient system of procurement to procure food grains themselves.

(b) Price deficiency payment :- pay farmers difference between MSP & market price instead of procurement.

(c) PM Aasha :- improve procurement for pulses, oilseeds & copra

(d) New farm laws :- freedom to farmers to trade outside mandis ⇒ less need for government procurement.

(e) GPS for food trucks to reduce leakages.

Thus, there is need to revamp procurement system to reduce inefficiencies & double farmers income.

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(18) Explaining the concept of Integrated Water Resource Management, discuss how it can help in addressing the gaps in the present system of water management in India. 15M

Ans. Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) takes a holistic approach to managing water resources including ground water, surface water, soil, vegetation, etc.

Gaps in present system

(a) India has 17% of population of the world but only 4% of water resources ⇒ tremendous pressure on water resources.

(b) Unbridled exploitation of groundwater

NITI Aayog ⇒ 21 out of 30 cities will run out of groundwater.

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(c) Overirrigation ⇒ depletion of ground water
→ rise in soil salinity
→ soil erosion

(d) pollution of water (NITI Aayog ⇒ 70% of water in India is polluted)

(e) Top down approach to water management.

Benefits of IWRM

(a) Groundwater & surface water treated holistically & not in silos

(b) Conserving soil moisture through mulching, organic carbon, etc. can reduce need for irrigation.

(c) Afforestation can increase ground-water recharge

(d) Reduction in soil erosion

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(e) Preventing water pollution
eg:- Namami Gange uses IWRM to clean Ganga

(f) participatory water management -
eg: water panchayats, water user associations, etc

Challenges

1. Lack of awareness of farmers
2. Inadequate use of ICT
3. Lack of proper data on water extraction & use.

Thus, there is need to promote IWRM to ensure water security as recommended by Mihir Shah committee

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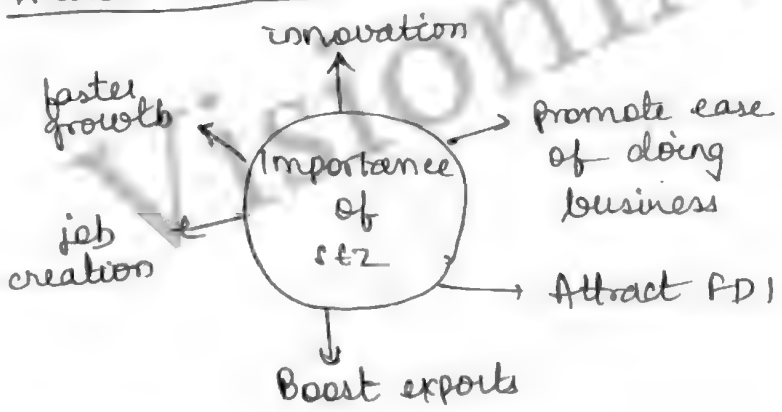
(19) SEZs have been facing numerous challenges, thwarting the idea of SEZ-led growth and development. Discuss. Enlist some measures that have been suggested to address these challenges. 15m

Ans. SEZ or Special Economic Zone is an area where industries are offered special incentives such as tax holiday, world class infrastructure, skilled labour, etc.



Challenges faced by SEZ

(a) Difficulty in land acquisition due to protests from locals, delays, etc.

(b) Difficulty in getting regulatory clearances (Redtapism)

(c) Lack of infrastructure - power, storage, transport, etc

(d) Lack of skilled labour

(e) High cost of credit due to poor condition of banking & NBFC sector, poor transmission of monetary policy

(f) High cost of logistics (14% of GDP)

(g) Lack of environmental sustainability

(h) Inverted duty structure

(i) Labour unrest (eg: Wistron plant vandalism in Karnataka)

(j) Contract enforcement is weak due judicial backlog.

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Measures

Baba Kalyani Committee has recommended:-

(a) Improving infrastructure.

eg: Dedicated freight corridor,
Sagarmala,
Bharatmala, etc.

(b) Simplifying regulatory procedures

eg: single window clearance,
timely approval,
self certification,
4 labour codes, etc.

(c) Alternative Dispute Resolution - arbitration, conciliation, etc.

(d) Upskilling labour - PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana

Thus, there is need to revive SEZ-led growth to become $5 billion economy.

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(20) Examine the importance of foreign capital for a developing country like India. 15m

Ans. India is a developing country which is capital hungry and foreign capital can fulfil this need.

Importance of foreign capital

(a) In India, investment needs exceed savings. foreign capital can bridge the gap

(b) Faster economic growth

(c) Job creation

(d) Inflow of new technology & new managerial practices

(e) Boosts exports

(f) Helps in poverty alleviation

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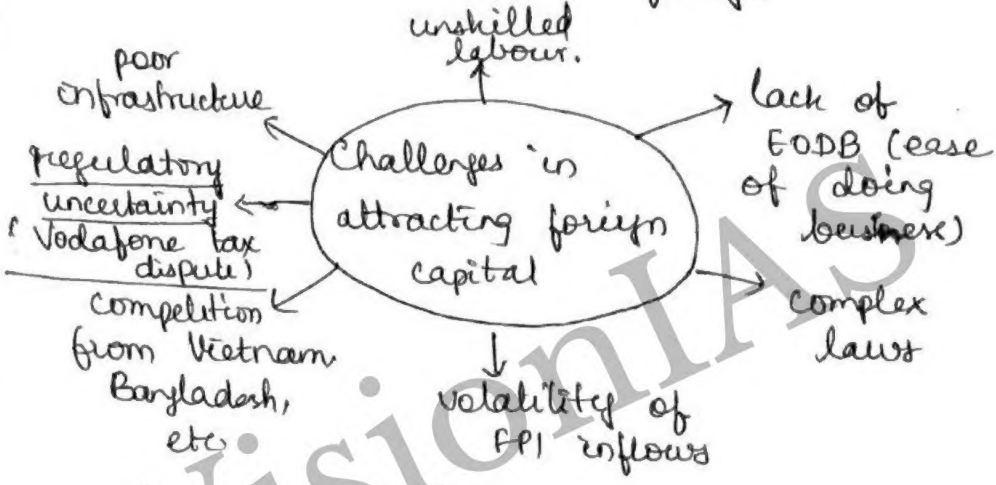
(g) promotes innovation and R&D

(h) helps India become part of global supply chains

(i) Ensuring balance of payments

~~Step taken to attract foreign~~



Steps taken

(a) Invest India - national investment promotion agency

(b) EODB reforms → labour codes, → single window clearance

(c) National Infrastructure pipeline

(d) Resolving Cairn, Vodafone tax

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disputes through arbitration & conciliation

(e) Signing new Bilateral Investment Treaties

(f) Atmanirbhar Bharat increased FDI limit in insurance, defence, space, etc.

~~Thus~~, As per UNCTAD report India was among top 10 recepients of FDI. There is need to further enhance foreign capital inflows to achieve $5 trillion economy

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